

March is busy, productive for Congressman Nunes

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Agriculture

Milk

Rep. Devin Nunes co-sponsored H.R. 1160, the Milk Import Tariff Equity Act. The bill seeks to prevent the unrestricted importation of dairy proteins currently flooding the U.S. market and contributing to the lowest prices in a quarter century. Milk Protein Concentrates are relatively new to the market and were not included in the General Agreement of Trade and Tariffs, as the ultra-filtration technology did not exist. H.R. 1160 is supported by the National Milk Producers Federation, the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Farmers Organization, the National Grange and the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives.

Poultry

Mr. Nunes joined a coalition of Representatives asking for the President's assistance in expeditiously resolving trade barriers imposed upon U.S. poultry by the Russian government. Recently, Russia imposed additional barriers to U.S. exports citing the failure of the two governments to agree on a veterinary agreement. Russia's trade restrictions have the potential of losses exceeding \$800 million to American producers.

Appropriations

Rep. Nunes expressed his

strong support to have the following projects included in the Fiscal Year 2004 Appropriations bills that will be passed later this year:

Agriculture

International Agri-Center, Tulare—\$1 million to provide matching funds for the International Agri-Center, so that it may fully equip the Heritage Complex Learning Center and complete construction of a new 20,000 square foot exhibit pavilion. Also signed by Reps. Bill Thomas and George Radanovich.

California Olive Industry—\$766,600 to conduct crucial research and trapping activities related to the olive fruit fly in California

Central Valley Applied Agricultural Technology Center, Clovis — \$1.5 million for the Central Valley Applied Agricultural Technology Center. These funds will be used to develop a project-based learning curriculum that will more effectively address the needs of today's high school students. Also signed by Rep. Radanovich.

Cutler and Orosi Sewer System—\$5 million to provide funding for a sanitary sewer system project in the communities of Cutler and Orosi.

Food Animal Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD) - \$1 million in the fiscal year 2004 Agriculture Appropriations Act to provide funding for the Food Animal



Rep. Devin Nunes, along with Rep. George Radanovich, sent a letter to the National Park Service requesting they consider setting aside a decision to discontinue the operation of the Wolverton Pack Station pending a decision on the exact location of a new pack station.

Residue Avoidance Databank (FARAD).

Farm to Market Roads: Tulare – \$10 million to provide funding for the rehabilitation of farm to market roads in Tulare County.

Air Quality—\$500,000 to continue the Central California Ozone Study in the United States Department of Agriculture's Cooperative Extension State Research, Education, and Extension Service account (Delegation request led by Rep. Thomas).

Fresno State—\$1.5 million for the California State University, Fresno, Agriculture Technology Institute (Request led by Rep. Radanovich)

Defense

Navy—\$12 million for research, development, testing, evaluation, and enhancements to the United States Navy's Intelligent Agent Security Module (IASM) - developed by a California based company.

(Request with members of the California delegation).

Housing

Mr. Nunes, along with a number of his Central Valley colleagues, sent a letter to Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Thomas in support of an itemized tax deduction for the cost of mortgage insurance, government-sponsored, as well as private, for taxpayers with an adjusted gross income of \$100,000 or less. This simple proposal would increase homeownership, particularly among first-time homebuyers, minorities and veterans, who are the biggest purchasers of mortgage insurance, by as much as 300,000 new homes each year. It would give existing homeowners who are currently paying mortgage insurance an average tax savings of \$200 per year.

Meth

Rep. Nunes, along with Rep. Bill Thomas, wrote to

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